II.   AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims of the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of optimizing a product order where the product includes at least one customer-selectable component, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the product order;

determining component information including component availability in real-time by querying a manufacturer system and, in response to a component being unavailable at the manufacturer, querying at least one supplier system in real time that can supply the component to the manufacturer; and

offering the customer at least one order option in real time based on a result of the determination.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the component information further includes at least one of: component availability, component cost, component delivery lag time to the manufacturer if the component is only available from a supplier, and product delivery lag time and cost for different manufacturing sites.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one option is selected from the group comprising: offering the customer an alternate component, removing a component from the order, selecting a manufacturing site, and ignoring the at least one option.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining an appropriate supplier that

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can fulfill an order for a component that is unavailable at the manufacturer, and placing an order for the unavailable component with a system of the appropriate supplier.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of scheduling at least one of a product delivery schedule and a component delivery schedule with a shipper system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining an available manufacturing site based on at least one site factor.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one site factor is selected from the group comprising: cost, component selected, proximity of a required supplier to a manufacturing site, proximity of a manufacturing site to a customer ship-to location, a manufacturing site capacity, and existing component inventory at a manufacturing site.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of confirming at least one of customer product fulfillment conditions, supplier order and ship information, and shipper scheduling.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for optimizing a product order where the product includes at least one customer-selectable component, the program product comprising:

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program code configured to receive the product order;

program code configured to determine component information <u>including component</u>

<u>availability</u> in real-time by querying a manufacturer system and, in response to a component

being unavailable at the manufacturer, querying at least one supplier system in real time that can

supply the component to the manufacturer; ~~and~~

program code configured to offer the customer at least one order option in real time based

on a result of the determination<u>; and</u>

<u>program code configured to determine an available manufacturing site based on at least</u>

<u>one site factor.</u>

10. (Currently amended) The program product of claim 9, wherein the component information

<u>further</u> includes at least one of: ~~component availability,~~ component cost, component delivery lag

time to the manufacturer if the component is only available from a supplier, and product delivery

lag time and cost for different manufacturing sites.

11. (Original) The program product of claim 9, wherein the at least one option is selected from

the group comprising: offering the customer an alternate component, removing a component

from the order, selecting a manufacturing site, and ignoring the at least one option.

12. (Original) The program product of claim 9, further comprising program code configured to

determine an appropriate supplier that can fulfill an order for a component that is unavailable at

the manufacturer, and place an order for the unavailable component with a system of the

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appropriate supplier.

13. (Original) The program product of claim 9, further comprising program code configured to schedule at least one of a product delivery schedule and a component delivery schedule with a shipper system.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim ~~14~~ 9, wherein the at least one site factor is selected from the group comprising: cost, a component selected, proximity of a required supplier to a manufacturing site, proximity of a manufacturing site to a customer ship-to location, a manufacturing site capacity, and existing component inventory at a manufacturing site.

16. (Original) The program product of claim 15, further comprising program code configured to confirm at least one of customer product fulfillment conditions, supplier order and ship information, and shipper scheduling.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for optimizing a product order where the product includes at least one customer-selectable component, the system comprising:

a customer interface module that provides a customer with a menu of component options and allows the customer to make a selection from the menu;

a component information determinator that determines, in real-time, <u>component</u>

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availability and at least one of component cost, component delivery lag time, ~~component availability,~~ and product delivery lag time and cost for different manufacturing sites by querying a manufacturer system and, in response to a component that is unavailable at the manufacturer, querying at least one supplier system that can supply the component; and

an options generator that offers the customer at least one option in real time based on a result of the determination.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the at least one option is selected from the group comprising: offering the customer an alternate component, removing a component from the order, selecting a manufacturing site, and ignoring the at least one option.

19. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 17, further comprising a component order generator that determines an appropriate supplier that can fulfill an order for a component that is unavailable at the manufacturer, and places an order for the unavailable component with a system of the appropriate supplier.

20. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising program code configured to schedule at least one of a product delivery schedule and a component delivery schedule with a shipper system.

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